



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2014

LCO No. 3520

SB0003603520SR0

Offered by:
SEN. KELLY, 21st Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 36

File No. 101

Cal. No. 108

(As Amended)

**"AN ACT CONCERNING THE GOVERNOR'S
RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE."**

1 Strike section 501 in its entirety and substitute the following in lieu
2 thereof:

3 "Sec. 501. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) As used in this section:

4 (1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Health;

5 (2) "Contact hour" means a minimum of fifty minutes of continuing
6 education and activities;

7 (3) "Department" means the Department of Public Health;

8 (4) "Licensee" means an advanced practice registered nurse licensed
9 pursuant to section 20-94a of the general statutes; and

10 (5) "Registration period" means the one-year period for which a

11 license has been renewed in accordance with section 19a-88 of the
12 general statutes and is current and valid.

13 (b) Except as provided in this section, for registration periods
14 beginning on and after October 1, 2014, a licensee applying for license
15 renewal shall earn a minimum of fifty contact hours of continuing
16 education within the preceding twenty-four-month period. Such
17 continuing education shall: (1) Be in an area of the advanced practice
18 registered nurse's practice; (2) reflect the professional needs of the
19 licensee in order to meet the health care needs of the public; (3) include
20 at least five contact hours of training or education in
21 pharmacotherapeutics; and (4) include training or education in the
22 diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's disease. For purposes of this
23 section, qualifying continuing education activities include, but are not
24 limited to, courses, including on-line courses, offered or approved by
25 the American Nurses Association, Connecticut Hospital Association,
26 Connecticut Nurses Association, Connecticut League for Nursing, a
27 specialty nursing society or an equivalent organization in another
28 jurisdiction, an educational offering sponsored by a hospital or other
29 health care institution or a course offered by a regionally accredited
30 academic institution or a state or local health department. The
31 commissioner may grant a waiver of not more than ten contact hours
32 of continuing education for an advanced practice registered nurse
33 who: (A) Engages in activities related to the advanced practice
34 registered nurse's service as a member of the Connecticut State Board
35 of Examiners for Nursing, established pursuant to section 20-88 of the
36 general statutes; or (B) assists the department with its duties to boards
37 and commissions as described in section 19a-14 of the general statutes.

38 (c) Each licensee applying for license renewal pursuant to section
39 19a-88 of the general statutes shall sign a statement attesting that he or
40 she has satisfied the continuing education requirements of subsection
41 (b) of this section on a form prescribed by the department. Each
42 licensee shall retain records of attendance or certificates of completion
43 that demonstrate compliance with the continuing education

44 requirements of subsection (b) of this section for a minimum of three
45 years following the year in which the continuing education activities
46 were completed and shall submit such records or certificates to the
47 department for inspection not later than forty-five days after a request
48 by the department for such records or certificates.

49 (d) A licensee applying for the first time for license renewal
50 pursuant to section 19a-88 of the general statutes is exempt from the
51 continuing education requirements of this section.

52 (e) (1) A licensee who is not engaged in active professional practice
53 in any form during a registration period shall be exempt from the
54 continuing education requirements of this section, provided the
55 licensee submits to the department, prior to the expiration of the
56 registration period, a notarized application for exemption on a form
57 prescribed by the department and such other documentation as may
58 be required by the department. The application for exemption
59 pursuant to this subdivision shall contain a statement that the licensee
60 may not engage in professional practice until the licensee has met the
61 requirements of this section.

62 (2) Any licensee who is exempt from the provisions of subsection (b)
63 of this section for less than two years shall complete twenty-five
64 contact hours of continuing education that meets the criteria set forth
65 in subsection (b) of this section within the twelve-month period
66 immediately preceding the licensee's return to active professional
67 practice.

68 (f) In individual cases involving medical disability or illness, the
69 commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, may grant a waiver of
70 the continuing education requirements or an extension of time within
71 which to fulfill the continuing education requirements of this section to
72 any licensee, provided the licensee submits to the department an
73 application for waiver or extension of time on a form prescribed by the
74 department, along with a certification by a licensed physician,
75 physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse of the

76 disability or illness and such other documentation as may be required
77 by the commissioner. The commissioner or his or her designee may
78 grant a waiver or extension for a period not to exceed one registration
79 period, except that the commissioner or his or her designee may grant
80 additional waivers or extensions if the medical disability or illness
81 upon which a waiver or extension is granted continues beyond the
82 period of the waiver or extension and the licensee applies for an
83 additional waiver or extension.

84 (g) Any licensee whose license has become void pursuant to section
85 19a-88 of the general statutes and who applies to the department for
86 reinstatement of such license pursuant to section 19a-14 of the general
87 statutes shall submit evidence documenting successful completion of
88 twenty-five contact hours of continuing education within the one-year
89 period immediately preceding application for reinstatement."